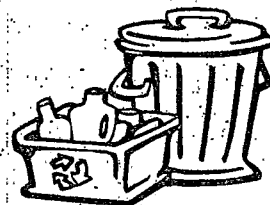




REUSABLE NEWS *Bulletin*

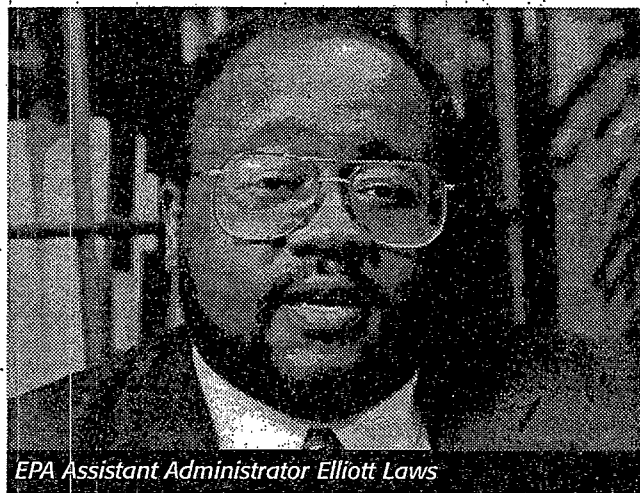


Nation Attains 25 Percent Recycling Goal

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of millions of people like you, we have met our national goal of 25 percent recycling of municipal solid waste. Building on this success, EPA is setting its sights on a proposed new target—a 35 percent recycling rate by 2005. Elliott Laws, the Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response, proposed the new goal at a celebration honoring outstanding recycling accomplishments. The event was held on June 17, 1996, in Newport Beach, California.


Since EPA set the 25 percent goal in 1989, curbside recycling programs have taken off and drop-off centers have made it easier to recycle everything from milk jugs to motor oil. In 1995, the United States recovered more than 53 million tons of materials from the solid waste stream, a 120 percent increase from the 24 million tons recovered in 1988.

Although we've come a long way, EPA recognizes that more can be done. The Agency is challenging the nation to increase recycling rates for durable goods, wood, yard trimmings, and food scraps, as well as to expand paper, glass, metal, and plastic collection at multi-family dwellings.



EPA Assistant Administrator Elliott Laws

S.C. Delaney/U.S. EPA

EPA would like to hear what you think of the proposed recycling target. Please submit comments to EPA's Municipal and Industrial Solid Waste Division at the address on the back of this newsletter. 

EPA Updates Paper Guideline

On May 29, 1996, (61 FR 26985) EPA published the Final Paper Products Recovered Materials Advisory Notice (Paper RMAN). The Paper RMAN provides updated postconsumer and recovered fiber content ranges for 33 paper products purchased by government agencies. These include printing and writing papers (such as reprographic, offset, and tablet paper), newsprint, commercial sanitary tissue products (like paper towels and napkins), and paperboard and packaging.

The Paper RMAN clarifies the definitions of several important terms; such as postconsumer fiber, recovered fiber, and mill broke, and addresses other issues such as measuring recycled content and paper recyclability. It also recommends content levels for an expanded list of items including paper used for checks, bristols (e.g., file folders and index cards), and padded mailers.

The Agency first published recycled-content recommendations for paper in its 1988 Procurement Guideline for Paper and Paper Products Containing Recovered Materials. The Paper Procurement Guideline has since been incorporated into EPA's broader Comprehensive Procurement Guideline (CPG), which identifies seven categories of recycled-content items, including paper products, that federal agencies should purchase.

For more information about the Paper Products RMAN, see the article on the Paper Products Fact Sheet in the Resources section of this *Bulletin*, or contact the RCRA Hotline at 800 424-9346. ☐

NERC Forum Spurs Recycling Markets

The Northeast Recycling Council (NERC), a coalition of northeastern state recycling agencies, sponsored the first-ever Northeast Recycling Investment Forum on May 7, 1996, in Boston, Massachusetts. The Forum, funded by a Jobs Through Recycling grant from EPA, brought together investors and recycling businesses seeking funding for new ventures.

At the Forum, 12 recycling businesses gave informative presentations on their technologies, plans, and projections for the future. Eight additional companies displayed their wares at exhibit booths. Participating businesses ranged from small, start-up companies to well-developed industry leaders. They exhibited a variety of products, including ceramic tile made from used glass bottles and concrete products made from recycled urban rubble. More than 40 investors attended the event.

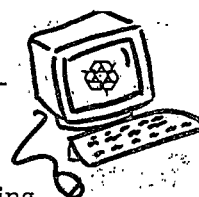
For more information about the Forum, contact Mary Ann Remolador of NERC at 802 254-3636. ☐

Exchanging Recyclables on the Internet

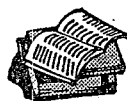
To make it easier to trade recyclable materials, the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) has launched the Recyclables Exchange on the Internet. The Exchange, which was previously a modem-based system, is located at the CBOT Web site in the "EcoCenter" at <http://www.cbott.com>.

The Exchange was developed by a partnership of CBOT, EPA, the National Recycling Coalition, New York State's Office of Recycling Economic Development, and Washington State's Clean Washington Center. The Exchange was established in 1995 to link buyers and sellers of recovered plastic, glass, and paper across the United States. More than 140 companies, municipalities, and nonprofit recyclers currently subscribe to the Exchange. Another 600 use the system as "guests," who are able to view information but not trade materials. Organizers believe that placing the Exchange on the Internet will provide global users increased and more cost-effective access to trading opportunities.

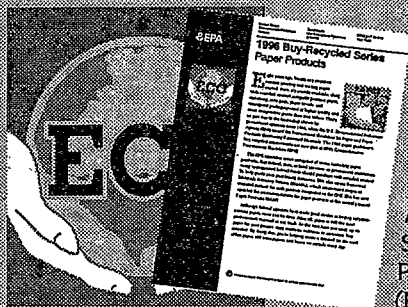
For more information about the Recyclables Exchange, contact Kiki Melonides or Nancy Villanova of CBOT at 312 435-3620. ☐



RESOURCES



Building a Better Future



Paper Products Fact Sheet

To help government agencies buy paper meeting EPA's new recommendations (see RMAN article on front page), the Agency has developed a Paper Products Fact Sheet. This fact sheet explains the Paper Products Recovered Materials Advisory Notice (RMAN), which contains EPA's updated recycled-content recommendations for a variety

of paper products. It includes a table of the postconsumer and recovered fiber content ranges purchasers should ask for when buying 33 types of paper products. It also offers numerous tips for buying various types of paper and provides a summary of EPA's other recommendations for purchasing paper products. A comprehensive list of resources includes relevant publications and contacts for more information.

This fact sheet is the fourth in a series on EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guideline (CPG). The CPG includes seven categories of recycled-content items that federal, state, or local agencies, or government contractors, should purchase.

For a copy of the Paper Products Fact Sheet, call the RCRA Hotline at 800 424-9346 or TDD 800 553-7672, or in the Washington, DC, area at 703 412-9810 or TDD 703 412-3323. Ask for document number EPA530-F-96-014. Fact sheets on transportation products (EPA530-F-96-011), park and recreation products (EPA530-F-96-012), and non-paper office products (EPA530-F-96-013) included in the CPG are also available.

New List Indicates Decreasing Landfill Numbers

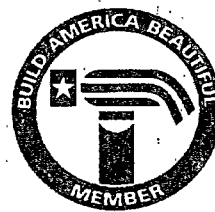
The number of municipal solid waste landfills (MSWLFs) in the United States dropped from 5,345 in 1992 to 3,581 in 1995, according to EPA's updated list of MSWLFs. This list is the third in a series of MSWLF lists that EPA's Office of Solid Waste has published. EPA published the first list in conjunction with the 1986 Census of State and Territorial Subtitle D Non-Hazardous Waste Programs.

The 1995 list is compiled from state records. The list includes a description of the types of additional information that can be obtained from each state, as well as a state contact. Active MSWLFs are listed alphabetically by state abbreviation and, within each state, by county and then landfill name. The list does not contain mailing addresses for the landfills.

The list is available on the Internet through EPA's Public Access Server at gopher.epa.gov.

Keep America Beautiful, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), and Home and Garden Television announced the winners of the 1996 Build America Beautiful Awards. These awards honor the construction industry's achievements in reducing waste and recycling at construction sites.

Builders Greg Shinaut of Lincoln, Nebraska, and Len Linzmeier of Madison, Wisconsin, as well as the Home Builders Association of Akron, Ohio, received awards for their recycling and waste reduction efforts. These include recycling cardboard boxes and packaging materials, scrap metal, saw blades, aluminum, and glass and collecting wood waste for chipping into mulch for landscaping and animal bedding.



"These winners demonstrate how Build America Beautiful can assist builders in employing greener work practices at minimal costs," said NAHB President Jim Irvine at the awards ceremony, held on January 28, 1996, in Houston, Texas, during NAHB's annual convention.

To encourage other builders to reduce, reuse, and recycle, Build America Beautiful kits are available for \$48 for nonmembers and \$40 for members. The kits include the program's guidelines, membership information, and NAHB's Construction Site Recycling Handbook.

For more information about the awards or the Build America Beautiful program, call the National Association of Home Builders at 800 368-5242, ext. 484. To order a kit, call the NAHB bookstore at 800 223-2665.



This issue of the *Reusable News Bulletin* is also available on the Internet. To access EPA publications through the World Wide Web, type:
<http://earth1.epa.gov/OSWRCRA/nonhw/recycle/reuse>

Through Gopher, the address is: gopher.epa.gov:70/11/Offices/Waste/OSWRCRA/nonhw/recycle/reuse



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